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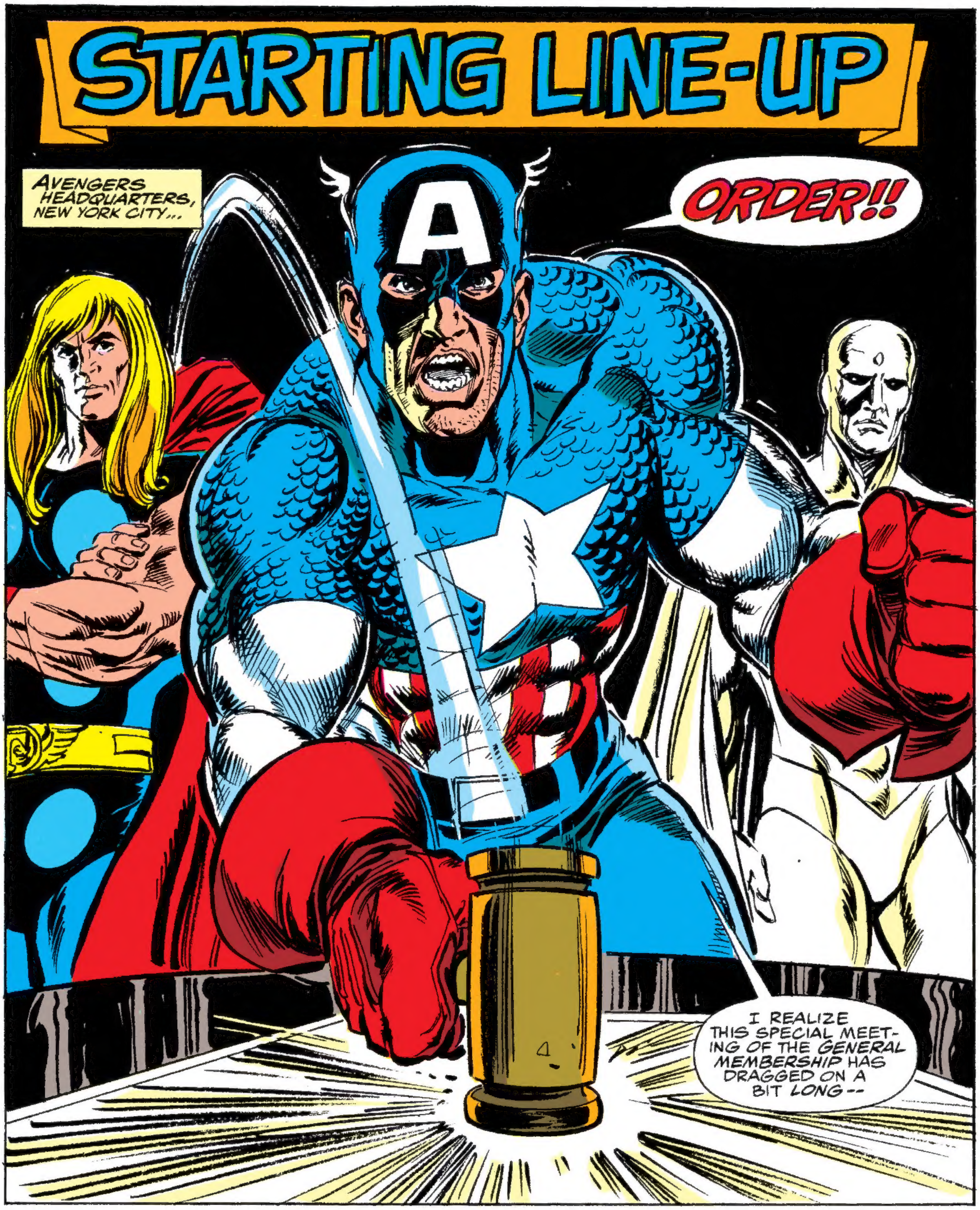
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE TIME HAS COME TO ANNOUNCE--

--A NEW TEAM OF AVENGERS!

RYAN / DALMER

TO COMBAT THOSE THREATS WHICH NO SINGLE HERO CAN STAND AGAINST, EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES HAVE FORGED A COVENANT TO UNITE IN BATTLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL MANKIND!
STAN LEE PRESENTS . . . THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

STARTING LINE-UP


AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK CITY...
ORDER!!
I REALIZE THIS SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP HAS DRAGGED ON A BIT LONG--

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--TWO DAYS IS MORE THAN A "BIT LONG"!

THESE ARE IMPORTANT MATTERS, HERCULES. THEY SHOULD BE RESOLVED CONCLUSIVELY WITHOUT IMPRUDENT HASTE.

I DO NOT SEE HOW A CONCLUSIVE RESOLUTION CAN BE ARRIVED AT WHILE WE EXIST IN A STATE OF LEGAL *LIMBO*, PIETRO!

WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO TO ARGUE REVISIONS TO OUR *BYLAWS* WHEN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS SEEN FIT TO *REVOKE* OUR *CHARTER*?

PRINCE *NAMOR* HAS A POINT, AND NOT JUST ON HIS EARS!

BECAUSE, IRONING OUT THE KINKS AND PATCHING THE HOLES IN OUR OPERATING RULES *COULD* MAKE THE DIFFERENCE IN WHETHER OR NOT WE GET *ANOTHER CHARTER*!

HO-HUM!

DID THE *FEDS* CHANGE THEIR MINDS? IS *THIS* WHAT ALL THOSE URGENT SECRET PHONE CALLS WERE ABOUT?

PIZZA

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT VACILLATING? READ MY HIPS!

NO, I BELIEVE THE GOOD CAPTAIN HAS BEEN OFFERED A BETTER DEAL!

HOW DOES NATASHA KNOW THESE THINGS?

AVENGERS, ALLOW ME TO YIELD THE PODIUM TO MS. DEVI BANNERJEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS!

THE HOUR IS LATE, SO I SHALL BE BRIEF...

...IF THE AVENGERS WILL AGREE TO AMEND THEIR CHARTER TO ALLOW FOR A TRULY INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP, I AM EMPOWERED TO OFFER THE AVENGERS A NEW CHARTER--

--AS A SPECIAL UNIT OF OUR PEACE-KEEPING FORCE, ASSIGNABLE ONLY TO COSMIC, EXTRATERRESTRIAL, EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL, OCCULT, SUB-TERRANEAN, SUB-OCEANIC MENACES, INVASIONS, LIMITED INCURSIONS, INFESTATIONS AND ENCHANTMENTS NOT INSTIGATED, ABETTED OR SANCTIONED BY A CURRENT MEMBER NATION.

WE'RE BACK IN THE GAME IF WE WANT IT, AVENGERS! I CALL FOR A VOTE OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP! ALL THOSE IN FAVOR?

YEA!!!

MEANWHILE, IN HELL'S KITCHEN...

...AND THIS IS THE CHAPEL OF ST. JUDE THE LESSER, A RATHER REMARKABLE EXAMPLE OF LATE HODGE-PODGE REVIVAL! NOTE THE BIZARRE MIX OF GOTHIC, BYZANTINE AND ROMANESQUE STYLES, ODDLY PUNCTUATED BY FAKE *CHIMAERAE*--

YOU MEAN THOSE *GARGOYLES*?

"GARGOYLES" CORRECTLY REFERS ONLY TO SCULPTURED WATER DRAINS. GROTESQUE DECORATIVE STATUARY ARE *CHIMAERAE*.

GROTESQUE? THOSE ARE DOWNRIGHT *UGLY*! THAT *BIG* ONE LOOKS ALMOST *ALIVE*!

TIME TO GET BACK ON THE BUS...

CHAR

...WE HAVE A LOT MORE SIGHTS TO SEE BEFORE IT GETS TOO *DARK*!

IT *COMES*, NGH! NOW COMES THE *DARK*, OH, *UNSPEAK-ABLE ONE*!

NOW IS *OUR* TIME, LITTLE XA...

...NOW COMES THE *SAFE* TIME, WHEN WE CAN ROAM THIS STRANGE NEW WORLD AND SEEK OUT OTHERS LIKE US!

OTHERS WITH DIRE *POWERS*... OTHERS WHO *HUNGER*!

SHOW US THE WAY, NGH-- THAT WE MAY FEED!

PATIENCE! FIRST, WE MUST OBSERVE!

WE MUST STUDY THE MANNER AND NATURE OF EVIL IN THIS WORLD AND BEND IT TO OUR AIMS!

AND FINALLY, WE MUST BE CAREFUL TO AVOID THAT GROUP OF SUPER-POWERED BEINGS WHO CALL THEMSELVES THE AVENGERS, AT LEAST UNTIL WE ARE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DESTROY THEM UTTERLY!

AND NOW--

WE MUST DRAW STRENGTH FROM THE EVIL OF THIS WORLD AND ADD IT TO OUR OWN POWERS!

--OFF, INTO THE NIGHT!!

THOSE GARGOYLES!! THEY-- THEY--

CHIMAERAE. THEY'RE CALLED CHIMAERAE--

--THEY FLEW AWAY!!

SURE, LADY. JUST GET BACK ON THE BUS!

...LIVE FROM *AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS*, WE ARE STANDING BY FOR AN IMMINENT OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! THE UNOFFICIAL RUMOR MILL HAS LET IT LEAK THAT THE AVENGERS HAVE BEEN OFFERED A CHARTER BY THE *UNITED NATIONS* AND THAT A VOTE IS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR A *NEW LINEUP!*

WHAP!

THE VOTE IS *UNANIMOUS!* WE HAVE ARRIVED AT AN AGREEMENT FOR A NEW *LINEUP!*

LET THE RECORDING SECRETARY ENTER THE NAMES OF THE NEW *PRIMARY TEAM* INTO THE OFFICIAL MINUTES...

...THOR, SERSI, VISION, QUASAR, BLACK WIDOW AND SHE-HULK!

DON'T FORGET ABOUT *YOURSELF*, CAP-- BEING *CHAIRMAN* AND ALL --

ACCORDING TO THE NEW BYLAWS, I AM THE *CHAIR-BEING*, THERE BEING MEMBERS WHO ARE TECHNICALLY NOT QUITE *HUMAN* --

-- *EXACTLY.*

NO OFFENSE THERE, *VISION.*

NONE TAKEN.

LISTEN UP! IN ADDITION TO THE *PRIMARY TEAM*, THERE SHALL BE SEVEN *RESERVE SUBSTITUTES*. ALL REMAINING AVENGERS NOT IN THE PRIMARY TEAM OR RESERVE SUBSTITUTES SHALL BE IN THE *INACTIVE RESERVES*.

PRIMARY TEAM AVENGERS MUST ANSWER ALL *CALLS TO ASSEMBLE*. IF UNABLE TO RESPOND, THE AVENGER MUST NOTIFY THAT SPECIFIC MEMBER'S RESERVE SUBSTITUTE. SO EACH RESERVE SUBSTITUTE MUST BE CAREFULLY CHOSEN TO BE A FITTING REPLACEMENT--

--PLEASE BEAR THAT IN MIND FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF *VOTING*...

ZZZZZZZ

MORE VOTING? WE HAVE TO HAVE MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS FOR *EACH* REPLACEMENT?

IT'S THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS...

HEADS UP, *HERC!*

CAUGHT YOU *NAPPING*, DUDE!

WHAT? WHY, YOU IMPUDENT--

HEY! LIGHTEN UP!

EVERYBODY IS *RESTLESS!* CAN WE *PLEASE* GET THE VOTE OVER WITH?

MAY I REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE OF SELECTING APPROPRIATE RESERVE SUBSTITUTES? THE RESERVIST SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF REPLACING THE POWERS OR TALENTS OF THE REPLACEE AND THAT RESERVIST SHOULD BE ONE WHO IS ACTUALLY AVAILABLE AND WILLING, AND--

ENOUGH OF THIS PETTIFOGGERY! LET US VOTE!

MORE COFFEE AND DONUTS, JARVIS? ARE THEY STILL VOTING IN THERE?

IF I COULD TELL YOU THAT, THEY WOULDN'T NEED TO HAVE A CLOSED MEETING, NOW, WOULD THEY, MR. JAMESON?

HEY, PEG-- YOU EVER SEE JARVIS AND THE VISION TOGETHER AT THE SAME TIME?

NO... YOU DON'T THINK--? YOU'RE PULLING MY LEG, AREN'T YOU, O'BRIEN?

SURE. VISION'S GOT TOO MUCH OF A SENSE OF HUMOR TO GET AWAY WITH IMPERSONATING JARVIS.

HEY, JOHN-- WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON THE GUY WITH THE BAG OVER HIS HEAD?

SOMETHING VAGUELY FAMILIAR ABOUT HIM. NOTICE THAT GRITTY SOUND HE MAKES WHEN HE WALKS ON THE TILE FLOOR?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF ALL THIS...

...I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT APPARENTLY THE AVENGERS INVITED THE BOTH OF US TO THIS AFFAIR AND SO FAR, ALL WE GOT TO DO IS HANG OUT IN THE HALL FOR CLOSE TO TWO DAYS!

WHAT DO THEY WANT FROM US?

COULD BE, RAGE...

...THAT WHAT THEY WANT FROM US, IS SOMETHING WE MIGHT BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO PROVIDE.

MEANWHILE, IN BROOKLYN...

I'M L.D.50 AND NOBODY PUSHES ME AROUND...

...ESPECIALLY NOT AN EGREGIOUS BROBDINGNAGIAN LIKE RAGE!

WHAT RIGHT DOES HE HAVE TO INTERFERE WITH OUR BUSINESS? WE ARE BUT DISPENSERS OF HAPPINESS! IS IT OUR FAULT IF PEOPLE ABUSE THE PHARMACEUTICAL PALLIATIVES WE PROVIDE?

YEAH! WE DON'T MAKE 'EM TAKE DRUGS!

...APPARENTLY THE AVENGERS' MEETING IS NOW OVER AND CAPTAIN AMERICA IS ABOUT TO READ A PREPARED STATEMENT. A LARGE CROWD HAS GATHERED, INCLUDING SOME PROTESTERS--

SUPERHEROES ARE SUPPOSED TO BATTLE SUPER-VILLAINS! NOW THIS RAGE IS FOMENTING CHANGE! AS THE SOCIAL ORDER DISINTEGRATES, MORE OF THESE SUPER-POLLYANNAS WILL START MEDDLING IN OUR BUSINESS ON THE STREET LEVEL!

WE DEALERS HAVE TO ACT, FOR OUR SURVIVAL!

THIS IS TRULY A MIND TO MY LIKING! THERE IS SUCH CLARITY TO HIS INTENTIONS!

YOU FOUND A PROSPECTIVE ONE ALREADY, NGH?

A GEM! UNPOLISHED, OF COURSE, BUT FLAWLESSLY EVIL!

COME, MY MERRY MINIONS! WE ARE AMONG OUR OWN KIND! I'M SO PLEASED, I SHALL LOWER MYSELF TO SPEAK IN THEIR VERNACULAR!

CRAACKK!

AND FURTHER-MORE--

WHAT'S POPPING, HOME? HEY, YOU AND ME, WE HAVE TO TALK *MEGA-DEAL* HERE, COMPRENDE?

I GOT THE *POWERS* AND YOU KNOW THE *TURF*. I'M NEW IN TOWN AND YOU GOT THE *MOVES*. TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE *BOOGIE*. ARE WE *DOWN*? CAN WE GET *BAD* WITH EACH OTHER, OR WHAT?

UHH... I KNOW MY *GOETHE*...

...YOU AREN'T *LUCIFER* OR ANY OF THE THOUSAND OTHER NAMES OF *ULTIMATE EVIL*, ARE YOU? MY *SOUL* ISN'T IN JEOPARDY?

COULD YOU REALLY HELP RID ME OF *RAGE*?

HE'S A *MENSCH*, RIGHT? HE'S GOT *HONOR*, *FEELINGS*, AND A *SENSE OF OBLIGATION*-- A REGULAR *STAND-UP GUY*! ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS FIND WHAT HE *LOVES*, AND *TRASH IT*!

YOU CLOCKIN' THIS, OR DO YOU ALWAYS LOOK THIS STUPIFIED?

IF YOU *HAD* ONE, WHY WOULD I *WANT* THE FUNKY OL' THING? THIS IS *BIDNESS*! USED *SOULS* ARE A *DRUG* ON THE MARKET!

UHHH... IF YOU'RE SO POWERFUL, WHY DO YOU NEED *US*?

LET'S JUST SAY THAT ME AND MY PAISANOS GOT TO MAINTAIN A *LOW PROFILE* IN THE LIGHT OF *PRIOR IMPROPRIETIES*!

YOU'RE *ON THE LAM*--!

JUST FOR THE TIME BEING...

... WHEN WE GET OUR ACT TOGETHER, WE'RE GONNA TAKE THE SHOW ON THE ROAD AND KNOCK 'EM DEAD IN THE AISLES!

...AND SO THE NEW LINE-UP FOR THE AVENGERS SHALL BE THOR, SERSI, QUASAR, SHE-HULK, VISION, BLACK WIDOW, AND MYSELF, CAPTAIN AMERICA!

I'M SURE I SPEAK FOR THE OTHERS WHEN I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT THE AVENGERS SHALL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS WE HAVE ALWAYS SERVED AND THAT WE SHALL NEVER FORGET WHAT THE WORDS "AVENGERS ASSEMBLE" STAND FOR!

HOORAY!

IT STANDS FOR FASCIST VIGILANTES!! WHEN DO WE, THE PEOPLE, GET A CHANCE TO SEE THIS NEW CHARTER? WHAT KIND OF DEAL DID YOU MAKE WITH THE POLITICIANS AND THE PLUTOCRATS?

THE AVENGERS SUPPORT CREW WILL PASS OUT COPIES OF THE NEW CHARTER TO ALL WHO WISH ONE, EVEN TO OUR DETRACTORS, WHOSE VERY RIGHT TO VOICE THEIR OPINIONS WE ALSO HOLD SACRED.

ELITIST FASCISTS MUST DISBAND

THAT'S TELLING THEM, CAP!

WENT RIGHT OVER THEIR HEADS, JENNIFER.

WHAT AM I DOING HERE? I'M NOT NEEDED AND I'M NOT WANTED AND I'M NOT EVEN NOTICED. WE WARMED THAT BENCH IN THE HALL FOR TWO DAYS AND THEY FORGOT ALL ABOUT US...

YOU SHOULD STOP SELLING YOURSELF SHORT, RAGE...

AND NOW, MAY I INTRODUCE TO YOU THE NEW AVENGERS RESERVE SUB-STITUTES!

SPIDER-MAN, BLACK KNIGHT, FALCON, HERCULES, AND CAPTAIN MARVEL!

BRAVO!

SPEECH!

CAN WE GET A COMMENT FROM SPIDEY?

HEY, WHAT CAN I SAY? I JUST HOPE WE CAN LIVE UP TO THESE AWESOME DUDES AND LADIES!

I'M SURE YOU WILL!

;HRMPH!; I KNEW THAT MORON WAS GOING TO USE THE WORD "AWESOME"!

AT LEAST HE DIDN'T USE THE ADVERB "TOTALLY", JONAH!

CAPTAIN AMERICA! I NOTICE THAT THERE ARE ONLY FIVE RESERVE SUBSTITUTES FOR SEVEN PRIMARY AVENGERS. ARE THERE TWO SLOTS LEFT OPEN, AND IF SO, WHY?

A VERY ASTUTE OBSERVATION, WHICH BRINGS US TO OUR NEXT TOPIC...

...THOSE TWO SPECIFIC SLOTS WERE LEFT OPEN BECAUSE, HOPEFULLY, THEY WILL BE FILLED BY TWO NEW PROBATIONARY AVENGERS, ONCE THEY GRADUATE TO FULL AVENGER STATUS!

BRING THEM OUT, LADIES!

HE'S TALKING ABOUT *YOU TWO!*

WHAT?

TIME TO MEET THE *PRESS!*

IT'S MY PRIVILEGE TO INTRODUCE *RAGE*, A HERO WHO MADE A STAND WITH US IN AN *ALIEN* DIMENSION AND ISN'T AFRAID TO SPEAK OUT FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IN IN *THIS* DIMENSION!

RAGE

IN A WAY, THE OTHER RESERVE SUBSTITUTE NEEDS NO REAL INTRODUCTION. YOU'VE KNOWN HIM FOR MANY YEARS AS THE *SANDMAN!*

SANDMAN? THAT MAN IS A CRIMINAL!

NOT ANYMORE! HE IS COMPLETELY REHABILITATED AND HE HAS A *PRESIDENTIAL PARDON!* IF THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR *NIXON*, IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR *SANDMAN!*

OKAY, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE *OTHER* GUY? WHAT'S HIS NAME, *RAGE*? WHERE DID HE COME FROM? WHAT CAN HE *DO*?

YEAH! WHO'S *STRONGER*, HIM OR THE *HULK*?

IF HE'S SO HOT, HOW COME WE NEVER HEARD OF HIM?

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, *RAGE* HAS *ALREADY* PROVEN HIMSELF AND I'M SURE THE PRESS WILL HEAR A LOT MORE ABOUT HIM IN THE FUTURE!

YOU KNEW THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE SHOWN UP THIS IF I HAD KNOWN YOU WERE GOING TO SPRING THIS ON ME! THIS WAS AN *AMBUSH*!

GRANTED, BUT JUST THINK, WOULDN'T YOUR *GRANDMOTHER* HAVE BEEN SO PROUD IF SHE HAD BEEN *ALIVE* TO SEE--

--GEE, I'M *SORRY*! DID I PUT MY FOOT IN MY MOUTH? I *ASSUMED* THAT SHE WAS GETTING *ON* IN YEARS WHEN YOU WERE *TWELVE*, SHE COULDN'T POSSIBLY STILL BE--

HEY, IT'S *NOTHING*...

...YOU'RE RIGHT. SHE *WAS* PRETTY OLD WHEN I WAS *TWELVE*. BUT SHE'S STILL HALE AND--

SPLATT

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A RUNNING-DOG *LACKEY*, YOU BOOT-LICKING *UNCLE TOM*!

MUST DISBAN

GO AWAY!

ON THE SPOT UPDATE! LONGTIME ACTIVIST AND FORMER DEBUTANTE *AURELIA LUMPEN-PARVENU* HAS JUST BEANED *RAGE* WITH A ROTTEN EGG! STAND BY FOR THIS LATE-BREAKING STORY--

PAGE

IN BROOKLYN...

HEY! L.D.SO! SCOPE THIS OUT...!

...THAT RAGE CHARACTER IS ON THE TV!

NGH! TRANSMITTED IMAGES OF THE CREATURES WE BATTLED IN THE DIMENSION OF EXILE!

YOU THREW DOWN THE AVENGERS AND YOU'RE STILL STANDIN'?

HIS LIPS ARE MOVING, BUT THERE'S NO SOUND!

NOTHING'S WRONG WITH THE TV, HE'S JUST MUTTERING TO HIMSELF!

I SQUATTED ON THAT CHURCH ROOF AND LEARNED YOUR LANGUAGE BY LISTENING AND WATCHING. I CAN READ LIPS LIKE A CHAMP...

...AND THAT UGLY PIECE OF WORK IS RECITING A NAME OVER AND OVER, LIKE A MANTRA--

--GRANNY STAPLES!

NOW, YOU KNOW WHAT HE LOVES!

IF SHE'S IN BROOKLYN, MY ASSOCIATES CAN LOCATE HER WITHIN A MINIMAL TIME FRAME!

DO THAT! I'LL LEAN ON THE OLD BIDDY MY OWNSELF!

...DON'T DO ANYTHING RASH--

LET ME GO. I'M IN CONTROL. JUST HAD TO THINK GOOD THOUGHTS, PUT MYSELF IN THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE. I'M ALL RIGHT...

ARE YOU SURE?

BETTER BE A NICE SERVILE TOM AND DO WHAT THEY SAY, YOU STOOGE OF THE SLAVE-MONGERS!

AWW, THAT'S MORE THAN I HAVE TO TAKE!

LADY, YOU JUST STEPPED OVER THE LINE!

EEEEE! HE'S RUNNING AMOK!!

KEEP THE TAPE RUNNING!

THAT'S RIGHT! COME ON DOWN AND BEAT ME UP! THAT'S ALL YOU SUPER-HERO TYPES KNOW ABOUT, IGNORANCE AND VIOLENCE!

ARE YOU HAPPY TO BE AMONG YOUR ELITIST PIG FRIENDS, SO YOU CAN BE BULLIES TOGETHER?

WHO'S THE BULLY HERE? WHO THREW THE EGG? WHO IS THE ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT ADOLESCENT WHO THINKS HER OWN NARROW VIEWS ARE THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE?

SEE? HE'S ATTACKING ME! HE'S A BRUTAL FASCIST JUST LIKE HIS FRIENDS!

THESE AREN'T MY FRIENDS! I DON'T PARTICULARLY LIKE THEM AND FOR THE MOST PART, THEY AREN'T REALLY CRAZY ABOUT ME, EITHER!

IT HAS TO DO WITH CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND GENERATIONS OF HATE AND MISUNDERSTANDING!

UNDERSTANDING DOESN'T COME FROM OUTSIDE AGITATION. CHANGE HAS TO COME FROM WITHIN. IF THE AVENGERS WANT TO GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO CHANGE THEM, THEN I DON'T CARE WHAT THEIR MOTIVATIONS ARE.

YOUR METHODS SCARE THE GEE-WILIKERS OUT OF ME, RAGE...

...BUT I CAN'T DISAGREE WITH WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART.

TREMBLE BEFORE US, PATHETIC INHABITANTS OF THIS PITIFUL PLANE OF EXISTENCE--THE TETRARCHS OF ENTROPY ARE COME AMONG YE!

WHAT THE--

WE BE YOD OF THE ALL-SEEING EYE, HAFGA OF THE COILS OF INFINITY, VUG THE BURNING, AND HEML OF THE MYRIAD VISAGES!

WE SEEK THOSE AMONG THEE KNOWN AS THE AVENGERS!

WE ARE THE AVENGERS, BUT WE TREMBLE BEFORE NO ONE!

THEN THOU ART MAD. THE TETRARCHS OF ENTROPY FIND THESE MISCREANTS KNOWN AS THE **AVENGERS** GUILTY OF ABETTING THE ESCAPE OF THE CRIMINAL **NGH** FROM THE DIMENSION OF EXILE!

THOU ART SENTENCED TO **ETERNITY** IN THE DIMENSION OF EXILE! SENTENCE TO COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY!

SSSSSZZZZZ

THEY ZAPPED THE WHOLE *PRIMARY* TEAM!

RESERVE SUBSTITUTES **ASSEMBLE!!**

FOOLS! THOU WOULDST ATTACK THE TETRARCHS, WHO ART FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE?

FORCE FIELD!

STRONGER THAN ANYTHING I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED!

ENOUGH! NGH AND HIS MINIONS ARE YET LOOSE UPON THE UNIVERSES, UPSETTING THE INEXORABLE TENDENCY TOWARDS ENTROPY!

LET THE TETRARCHS OF ENTROPY TARRY NO LONGER WITH THESE INSIGNIFICANT MITES!

SSSZZZZZ

LOOKS LIKE WE MIGHT BE GETTING THROWN INTO THE FRONT LINES SOONER THAN WE THOUGHT!

IN THE DIMENSION OF EXILE...

I SENSE A DIFFERENT REALITY AT WORK HERE. A MUTING OF VITAL ENERGIES.

THIS WORLD LESSENS US IN MANY WAYS, VISION!

THE TETRARCHS OF ENTROPY AREN'T OMNISCIENT, OR THEY WOULDN'T BE SEARCHING FOR NGH, WHOEVER HE IS! PERHAPS THEY DON'T KNOW THAT THOR TRANSPORTED US BACK AND FORTH FROM THIS DIMENSION WITH MJOLNIR!

AYE! AIDED BY A MODULATING FIELD FROM SERSI! MY MIGHTY URU MALLET--

ODIN'S BEARD!! MJOLNIR HATH BEEN IMPRISONED!!

'TIS ENCASED IN IMMUTABLE CRYSTAL! LO, IT YIELDS NOT TO MY HARDEST BLOW!

WAIT! MAYBE SERSI CAN--

SERSI!!

SHE'S ENCASED IN THE SAME KIND OF CRYSTAL! SHE'S CONSCIOUS, BUT UTTERLY HELPLESS!

IT'S NOT CRYSTAL, BUT WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN NEUTRALIZE THE POWERS OF BOTH SERSI AND MJOLNIR...

I SHALL HAVE TO PONDER THIS PREDICAMENT AT GREAT LENGTH TO COME TO A FEASIBLE SOLUTION!

MEANWHILE, IN BROOKLYN...

BRRRNG!

BRRRRNG!

WHO'S RINGING MY DOORBELL AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING?

...WHOEVER THAT IS, YOU HAD BETTER HAVE A GOOD REASON TO DRAG ME OUT OF BED AT THIS HOUR!

OPEN UP, GRANNY STAPLES! IT'S ME, YOUR GRANDSON, ELVIN!

ELVIN? DID YOU LOSE YOUR KEYS, OR--

--YOU'RE NOT ELVIN!

VERY PERCEPTIVE, LADY! ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF--

NO NEED TO TELL ME WHO YOU ARE--

--I KNOW THE DEVIL WHEN I SEE HIM, AND YOU HAD BEST GET OFF MY STOOP BEFORE I KICK YOU OFF!!

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

ZONE